

Test materials for UV permeability

You need:

- a matchbox with UV sensitive beads
- miscellaneous testing materials
- a piece of string for making a bracelet
- scissors, markers for decorating the box

Keep the UV-beads in the box before testing.

Let's start:

Put a piece of testing material on the closed box.

Open the box. The UV beads need to be fully covered by the testing material. Expose the box to sunlight for a while.

If the beads change colour, the material does not fully block UV light.

Find other materials for testing.

Do your sunglasses protect you well from UV light??

Make a bracelet with your UV beads.

How do UV beads work?

They are made from transparent plastic ,coloured' with a chemical substance.

This substance changes colour when exposed to UV light.

If you wear a bracelet with UV beads you can always see if you are exposed to UV light.

Too much of it is not healthy.

Notes for activity guides: materials

UV beads

Are available in the United States of America for example at stevespanglerscience.com, in Germany at stolina.de by the name of Zauberperlen. I haven't found them in Switzerland.

Testing materials

- plastic, fabrics, paper, wood, metal etc.
- various glasses, goggles, ski glasses, sun glasses

Kids can test their own sunglasses.

